Latin 1A Mr. Stephen Czujko

Fall 2017 – Spring 2018 [sczujko@latinpcs.org](mailto:sczujko@latinpcs.org)

**Introduction:**

Latin was the language of the Romans – an ancient civilization that started in modern Italy and grew, over time, into one of the world’s largest empires. Roman civilization at its height covered most of Europe, the Mediterranean Sea, North Africa, and the Middle East. Their civilization grew from 753 B.C.E. and the founding of Rome until its official end in 1453 C.E. and the Fall of Constantinople. For those approximately 2,200 years Latin was spoken wherever the Romans wemt, from England in the west to Iraq in the east.

Latin is one member of a large family of languages that, along with the languages of Ancient Greek and Sanskrit, can be traced back to a common parent language that was spoken long ago. This family tree has many branches. One of those branches – the Romance branch – started with the Latin language and grew into the modern languages of Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Romanian. Modern English grew out of the same family tree but a different branch, which makes it a distant cousin of Latin. Although the two languages are different there are many connections between Latin and English.

There are many good reasons to study Latin. English uses the Latin alphabet and almost 60% of our English words are Latin-based. Here are some examples:

**LATIN ENGLISH**

parēnsparent

longa long

pictūra picture

pīrāta pirate

schola school

Studying Latin will improve your understanding of English. Your reading and writing will both benefit from learning Latin. In order to really, really learn Latin we will study both its grammar as well as Roman history and culture.

**Yearlong Essential Questions:**

1. Are there things worth saving from the past?

2. Is the world we live in a better world?

**Texts:**

Balme, M. G., and James Morwood. *Oxford Latin Course*. Oxford University Press, 2012.

We will be using the Oxford Latin text in class. I will not be sending copies of this text home. When I assign homework from the book I will be sure to either have printed out copies of the work available or I will upload .pdfs that can be accessed on Wiki.

**Grading Policies:**

Below is a breakdown of how you will be graded[[1]](#footnote-1):

**30% - Tests**

**25% - Quizzes**

**15% - Class Participation**

**15% - Projects**

**15% - Homework**

**Quizzes and Tests:**

I need to be able to know that you are understanding and remembering the material that you are learning. In order that I may know that and to gauge how much is making sense to you I will be giving quizzes and tests. You can expect to take quizzes fairly frequently, at least 1 every 2 weeks. Tests will be given once per unit, so once for approximately every 5-6 weeks.

**Class Participation:**

In my classroom class participation takes into account 3 equally important items of business: attendance, preparedness, and participating in the lesson (this includes asking questions and volunteering for activities). My classes are interactive, meaning that I put a high emphasis on making sure you are given as many opportunities to speak up as possible – your voices are important and we will all learn more the more each of us is given the chance to practice. Class participation is the best, and perhaps, easiest way to earn points in this course. I strongly encourage each and every one of you takes advantage of it.

**Projects:**

There will be a project once a quarter. These projects will count for 15% of your quarterly grade. Information for these assignments will be handed out several weeks in advance of a due date.

**Homework**:

In order to truly learn a language students need to be diligent about practicing. We have a limited time together in school each day. While we will make the most of that class time it is necessary for you to do more work on your own outside of the classroom. My homework assignments are designed for you to practice material covered that day in class. I want you to be able to remember and apply what we learn and in order to that practice at home is needed. I will never give you work without a purpose. Moreover, I will not assign you homework that will take up more than 10-15 minutes of your time. *According to a school-wide policy, NO LATE HOMEWORK will be accepted. However, each student will be granted ONE late pass per quarter to use to turn in one assignment late.*

**Classroom Conduct:**

Your learning and success are of paramount importance. As such, it is vitally important that we make the most of our time together. In order to ensure that class time is productive, effective, and (yes) fun I expect you to hold yourselves to the high, but fair, standards I have set.

The following are the main rules that I expect you all to follow:

1. Be respectful and kind to your fellow students and your teacher.
2. Whenever someone is talking, all others are silent, *without exception unless I say so.*
3. You must raise your hand when you want to speak, when you need to go to the bathroom, or whenever you need to get my attention.
4. Take risks. You will fail, and you will make mistakes. *I expect you to be willing to answer questions you are uncertain about, and to try out new challenges and new ideas in class.*
5. Be respectful to my classroom and my supplies.

When you break one of these rules (with the exception of taking risks!), there will be a progression of consequences, which can be seen below:

1st time: Warning

2nd time: Your poor behavior will be negatively noted in your participation grade.

3rd time: A note or email will be sent home to your parents.

**\*\*If your behavior is not corrected after the third time, an appropriate heavy consequence will be given based on the severity of your bad behavior\*\*[[2]](#footnote-2)**

**Absences:**

If you are absent, you must find out the material and homework that you missed on the Wiki. There will be extra copies of assignments and class notes on the wiki, *Your expectation is to complete the assignment and to get the grammar notes online on your own.*

Homework due the day you are absent is due *the day you return.* Homework assigned the day you were absent is due *the day after you return. If you turn your homework in a day late, you will receive a 50%. If you turn in your homework 2 days or more later, you will not receive any credit.*

If you missed a quiz, you will have to make it up *within 3 days of your return to school.* You may come during lunch or during tutorial in the afternoon. If you cannot come to either lunch or tutorial, then you must make it up in class. *If you do not make up your quiz after 3 days, you will receive a 0.* If you missed a test, you will have *5 school days* to make it up. After 5 days, you will lose 10 points from your test score *each day* that you do not make up the test.

**Bathroom:**

You should use the bathroom during the available time that you have outside of class: during recess, lunch, before school, and during transition times. The time for class is a time for learning, and not a time to take a break going for a stroll in the hall. If you have an *emergency*, then you may raise your hand and ask to go to the bathroom.

**Cell Phones, Music Players, Books, and Other Items:**

Please do not have out any books, iPods or iPads, phones, games, or toys during class. *Once you enter my class, you should have put away any distractions in your bag. The only things on your desk should be Latin materials.*

**Please sign, date, and return this signature sheet to Mr. Czujko by Wednesday, August 30, 2017.**

**Parent/Guardian and Student Signatures on syllabus rules:**

*By signing this syllabus agreement sheet, you agree with all of the rules in this syllabus and in this classroom, and promise to adhere to them. Additionally, you agree that you have shown all of these rules to your parents and have made them fully aware of the expectations of Latin class for this year.*

**Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. This breakdown is an estimation of how your grade will be determined. I reserve the right to take into account other factors such as improvement, effort, and other intangible factors when determining your course grade. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. I do not expect anyone to reach drastic consequences such as being sent to the dean of students, but your behavior is your own responsibility and your own choice. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)